

Application. No. 09/822,433
Amendment. Dated: October 7, 2004
Reply to Office Action of: April 7, 2004

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of any claims in this application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-55 (cancelled)

Claim 56 (currently amended) A method of installing a floor covering, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) laying a plurality of plastic anchor sheets side by side on a floor, each anchor sheet being substantially covered with hooks of a hook and loop attachment system;
- (b) installing a first decorative covering onto anchor sheets of step (a), each covering having an underside substantially covered in loops of the attachment system;
- (c) installing a second said decorative covering with an edge abutted against a first piece;
- (d) repeating any of steps (a), (b) and (c) as necessary to create a contiguous floor covering, with at least some of the decorative coverings overlapping a join of neighboring anchor sheets.

Claim 57 (previously presented) The method of claim 56, further comprising the step of attaching at least one of the anchor sheets to the floor.

Claim 58 (previously presented) The method of claim 56, further comprising the step of attaching at least a pair of the anchor sheets to each other.

Claim 59 (previously presented) The method of claim 58, wherein the step of attaching at least a pair of the anchor sheets to each other includes installing a bridging piece which covers a join between abutting anchor sheets.

Claim 60 (previously presented) The method of claim 58, wherein the anchor sheets are rectangular.

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Claim 61 (previously presented) The method of claim 60, wherein the attaching at least a pair of the anchor sheets to each other includes attaching neighboring anchor sheets to each other at the corners thereof.

Claim 62 (previously presented) The method of claim 56, wherein the decorative covering is a flexible covering.

Claim 63 (previously presented) The method of claim 62, wherein the flexible decorative covering is a carpet piece

Claim 64 (cancelled)

Claim 65 (currently amended) The method of claim 56, wherein said plastic is selected from the group consisting of polycarbonate, polyester, polyethylene, and polypropylene.

Claim 66 (previously presented) The method of claim 63, wherein a said carpet piece is narrower than a said anchor sheet to which it is installed.

Claim 67 (previously presented) The method of claim 63, wherein a said carpet piece is of wider width than a said anchor sheet to which it is installed.

Claim 68 (previously presented) The method of claim 56, wherein step (b) is repeated to combine different colors or different patterns of the same type of decorative covering.

Claim 69 (previously presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the decorative covering is carpet.

Claim 70 (previously presented) The method of claim 56, wherein steps (a) and (b) are repeated as necessary to create an area rug.

Claim 71 (previously presented) The method of claim 56, wherein each anchor sheet has a non-

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slip surface on an underside thereof.

Claim 72 (previously presented) The method of claim 56, wherein said decorative covering is a carpet piece, and further comprising the step of installing a plurality of pieces onto a single anchor sheet.

Claim 73 (previously presented) The method of claim 63, wherein a said carpet piece is formed by die cutting of a larger carpet piece.

Claim 74 (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 56~~ A method of installing a floor covering, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) laying a plurality of anchor sheets side by side on a floor, each anchor sheet being substantially covered with hooks of a hook and loop attachment system wherein each of the anchor sheets has a cushion on an underside thereof; [[.]]
- (b) installing a first decorative covering onto anchor sheets of step (a), each covering having an underside substantially covered in loops of the attachment system;
- (c) installing a second said decorative covering with an edge abutted against the first piece;
- (d) repeating any of steps (a), (b) and (c) as necessary to create a contiguous floor covering, with at least some of the decorative coverings overlapping a join of neighboring anchor sheets.

Claim 75 (previously presented) The method of claim 56, wherein each anchor sheet is at least 10/1000 inches thick.

Claim 76 (currently amended) The method of claim 56, comprising the further step of, prior to step (b), temporarily covering at least a portion of a said anchor sheet onto which the covering is to be installed with a covering comprising a hard smooth plastic.

Claim 77 (previously presented) The method of claim 56, wherein the anchor sheets are more rigid than the decorative coverings.

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Claim 78 (previously presented) A method of installing a covering on a floor, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) laying a plurality of rectangular anchor sheets with edges of each anchor sheet abutting edges of its neighboring sheet to cover an area of the floor on which the carpet is to be installed, each anchor sheet being substantially covered on its top side with hooks of a hook and loop attachment system and having a cushion on its underside;
- (b) installing a first carpet piece having loops of the hook and loop attachment system on its underside by engagement with the hooks with at least part of a first anchor sheet;
- (c) installing a second said carpet piece with an edge abutted against the first piece;
- (d) repeating any of steps (a), (b) and (c) as necessary to form a contiguous floor covering and with at least some of said carpet pieces located to bridge one or more joins between neighboring anchor sheets.

Claim 79 (previously presented) The method of claim 78, further comprising attaching at least a pair of the anchor sheets to each other to each other at the corners thereof.

Claim 80 (previously presented) The method of claim 79, wherein each said anchor sheet comprises a plastic is selected from the group of plastics consisting of polycarbonate, polyester, polyethylene, and polypropylene.

Claim 81 (previously presented) The method of claim 80, wherein each anchor sheet is at least 10/1000 inches thick.

Claim 82 (previously presented) The method of claim 79, wherein the anchor sheets are of substantially the same size to each other, and each of a plurality of said carpet pieces is narrower than a said anchor sheet, and each of a plurality of said carpet pieces is of wider width than a said anchor sheet.

Claim 83 (previously presented) The method of claim 56 wherein the anchor sheets comprise a laminate having an upper layer of a relatively thin flexible rigid sheet material and a bottom layer of a relatively resilient cushioning material attached to the upper layer.

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Claim 84 (previously presented) A method of installing a decorative floor covering, the method comprising the steps of:

laying a plurality of first anchor sheets side by side on a floor, each anchor sheet being substantially covered with hooks of a hook and loop attachment system;
attaching a plurality of decorative coverings to a second anchor sheet, the second anchor sheet having an underside substantially covered in loops of the attachment system;
attaching the second anchor sheet to the plurality of first anchor sheets by engagement of the loops and the hooks.

Claim 85 (previously presented) The method of claim 84, wherein the second anchor sheet has a topside substantially covered in hooks of a hook and loop attachment system, and each of the decorative coverings has an underside substantially covered in loops of the hook and loop attachment system, and the second anchor sheet and the decorative coverings are attached to each other by the attachment system.

Claim 86 (new) A method of installing a floor covering, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) laying a plurality of polymer anchor sheets side by side on a floor, each anchor sheet being substantially covered with hooks of a hook and loop attachment system;
- (b) installing a first decorative covering onto anchor sheets of step (a), each covering having an underside substantially covered in loops of the attachment system;
- (c) installing a second said decorative covering with an edge abutted against a first piece;
- (d) repeating any of steps (a), (b) and (c) as necessary to create a contiguous floor covering, with at least some of the decorative coverings overlapping a join of neighboring anchor sheets.